COTTON CHATS

DRAPER COMPANY, HOPEDALE, MASS.

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HOPEDALE, MASS.

NO. 126. APRIL, 1913.

WE TAKE THIS OCCASION

To thank our customers for their patience and consideration in connection with orders which we have been unable to fill when expected on account of the local strike. At this writing we can not make definite promises on deliveries of certain goods, and where immediate shipment is a necessity we are answering letters frankly, and for the time being expect more or less orders to be filled temporarily by other parties.

WE ALSO APPRECIATE

the kind expressions of sympathy on the part of many friends and stockholders.

About one-third of our employees struck on April first without previous notice, request or demand of any description.

None of the strikers are Americans by birth; most of them are Italians and Armenians; few of them are able to speak English; hardly any are citizens by naturalization; and all are easily influenced by leaders who are living at the expense of people naturally law-abiding and well-disposed who have been persuaded to leave work and do many things that later on they will regret.

The strike has been under the advice and control of parties who are not and never have been our employees; it has been under the cloak of the so-called

I. W. W.

The individuals who have been conspicuous in bringing about and managing the strike include

A Tailor

A Barber

A Baker

A Capitalist

A Professional Agitator

and

A Photographer.

As many of our readers are not familiar with the objects of the I. W. W. organization we reproduce from one of its official publications the title page and other printed material.

THE I. W. W.

ITS HISTORY, STRUCTURE AND METHODS

By VINCENT ST. JOHN

PRICE TEN CENTS

PUBLISHED BY THE

I. W. W. PUBLISHING BUREAU

P. O. Drawer 622 New Castle, Pa.

I. W. W. PREAMBLE.

"The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life.

"Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system."

* * * *

"The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping to defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers."

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"Instead of the conservative motto, 'A fair day's wages for a fair day's work,' we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, 'Abolition of the wage system.' "

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I. W. W. Tactics or Methods

As a revolutionary organization the Industrial Workers of the World aims to use any and all tactics that will get the results sought with the least expenditure of time and energy. The tactics used are determined solely by the power of the organization to make good in their use. The question of "right" and "wrong" does not concern us.

No terms made with an employer are final. All peace so long as the wage system lasts, is but an armed truce. At any favorable opportunity the struggle for more control of industry is renewed.

The Industrial Workers realize that the day of successful long strikes is past. Under all ordinary circumstances a strike that is not won in four to six weeks cannot be won by remaining out longer. In trustified industry the employer can better afford to fight one strike that lasts six months than he can six strikes that take place in that period.

The organization does not allow any part to enter into time contracts with the employers. It aims where strikes are used, to paralyze all branches of the industry involved, when the employers can least afford a cessation of work—during the busy season and when there are rush orders to be filled.

The Industrial Workers of the World maintains that nothing will be conceded by the employers except that which we have the power to take and hold by the strength of our organization. Therefore we seek no agreements with the employers.

Failing to force concessions from the employers by the strike, work is resumed and "sabotage" is used to force the employers to concede the demands of the

workers.

The great progress made in machine production results in an ever increasing army of unemployed. To counteract this the Industrial Workers of the World aims to establish the shorter work day, and to slow up the working pace, thus compelling the employment of more and more workers.

To facilitate the work of organization, large initiation fees and dues are prohibited by the I. W. W.

During strikes the works are closely picketed and every effort made to keep the employers from getting workers into the shops. All supplies are cut off from strike bound shops. All shipments are refused or missent, delayed and lost if possible. Strike breakers are also isolated to the full extent of the power of the organization. Interference by the government is resented by open violation of the government's orders, going to jail en masse, causing expense to the taxpayers—which are but another name for the employing class.

In short, the I. W. W. advocates the use of militant "direct action" tactics to the full extent of our power to make good.

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We are looking forward to the time when the organized proletariat will meet in their union the world over "and decide how long they will work and how much of the wealth they produce they will give to the boss."

The following extracts from a few representative letters show how the I. W. W. is regarded by those who appreciate what it stands for.

FROM A COTTON MILL TREASURER.

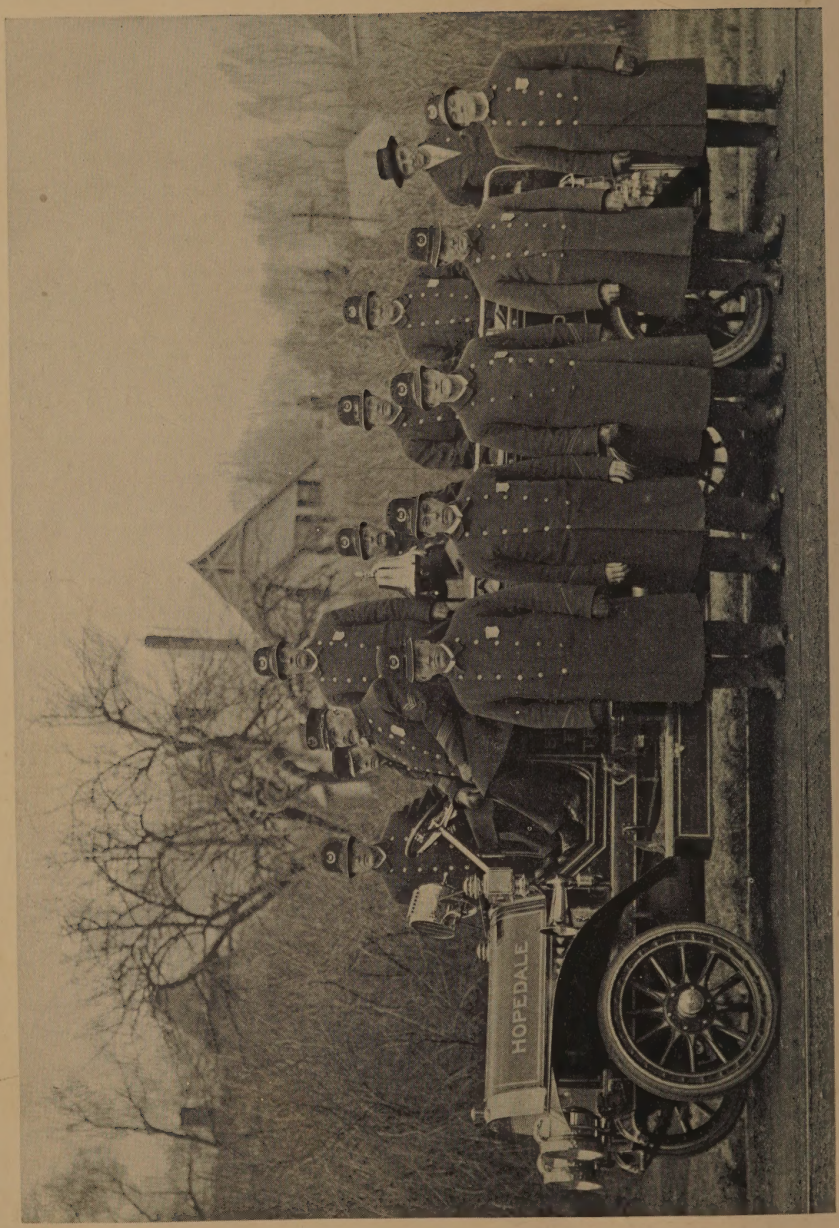
"Please accept my best wishes for your success in your controversy with the I. W. W. (**the I Won't Workers**)."

FROM A DRAPER COMPANY STOCKHOLDER LIVING IN ANOTHER STATE.

"I own a few shares of the common stock of the Draper Company, but I would rather sacrifice the dividends and principal entirely than have the company yield one jot to the strikers. I hope you will resist them to the very end, even if you close the plant utterly and indefinitely."

FROM THE DAUGHTER OF AN ITALIAN EMPLOYEE:

"My father wanted to come and work, but he can't because they'll kill him. When the strike is over then he'll come and work. My father is crying because he has children but can't come and we can't live."



The Hopedale Forest Fire Wagon

proves of unexpected value as a conveyance for a dozen Policemen from point to point during the strike.